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## Our Foreign Commerce.

The statistics of our exports and imports for the eleven months ending with November indicate that our total foreign commerce this year will beat all past records. For November our imports amounted to \$95,000,000. This is an increase of \$18,000,000 over November, 1903. For the eleven months they amounted to \$939,000,000, as against \$917,000,000 in 1903, an increase of \$22,000,000.

Our exports for the year are likely to show a falling off of from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000. Their diminution for the eleven months was \$5,000,000, as compared with the same period of 1903.

In round figures, our foreign commerce for this calendar year will be: Exports..... \$1.455,000,000 Imports...., 1,020,000,000

That our total exports for the eleven months were only \$5,000,000 short of the eleven months of 1903, though they fell off \$94,000,000 in breadstuffs, is encouraging news for our factories and factory

## No Constitution for Russia.

The subjects of NICHOLAS II. have asked for bread, and have received a stone. We learn from our correspondent at St. Petersburg that on Monday, the Czar's name day, the hoped for manifesto granting the petition of the zemstvos for representative institutions did not appear, but, instead, was issued a circular note commanding the Provincial Governors to prevent the zemstvos from discussing hereafter the question of a Constitution. The Reactionists have triumphed once more, and there remains for Russian patriots no resource but revolution.

To those conversant with the state of things at the St. Petersburg Court, it has from the first been patent that the attempt to secure any substantial concessions in the direction of representative institutions had scarely any chance of success. There seems, indeed, to be no doubt that Prince SVIATOPOLK MIRsky, the present Minister of the Interior, like LORIS MELIKOFF, who occupied the same office a quarter of a century ago, sincerely desires to see the autocracy transformed into a constitutional monarchy. The present Czar, however, is far from possessing his grandfather's independence of mind and firmness of character. Only a very remarkable man can resist the benumbing effect of the palace atmosphere and sustain a Liberal Minister in a course intensely obnoxious to the imperial family.

In spite of the rigorous censorship to which the press is subjected, there does exist such a thing as public opinion in Russia, but seldom or never does it reach the throne. A weak soverrign is easily infected with suspicion of an adviser who criticises the existing political system and urges drastic changes, for such an adviser is unsupported by any one who has the means of approaching the Czar familiarly and the courage to tell him the truth concerning what goes on about him. The only persons who can dothis are the Czar's relatives, the Grand Dukes. As Mr. Hugo Ganz has lately pointed out in his book "The Land of Riddles," his relatives represent to the Czar public opinion, and as long as they have no interest in placing themselves on the side of the reformers, so long, according to physico-psychological laws, will the voice of the real public opinion lose power in proportion to the square of the approach to the autocrat. That is why all anonymous enlightenment and unauthorized memorials offered by patriots willing to make themselves the victims of their conscience produce no more than a momentary impression.

The public opinion which forced even ALEXANDER II., relatively strong minded as he was, into the war with Turkey was the opinion of the belligerent Grand Dukes. The public opinion which to-day rules NICHOLAS II. and prevents the counsels of Russian Liberals from gaining careful and favorable consideration is that of the Grand Dukes, who move only in the narrowest court circles and in those of the reactionary bureaucracy. The present Czar has had during the last twelve months a painful proof of the untrustworthiness of the information emanating from his relatives, for they made him believe that the Japanese affair was well on the way toward a peaceful settlement, while at the same time, by dilatory tactics and incessant preparations, they provoked the Mikado to declare war.

While the Russian sovereign, however, may distrust his entourage, he cannot help himself. Theirs is the only voice he hears. There is but one way in which a ruler can secure veracious information. That is, of course, by the introduction of a free press and an independent national assembly. Not that it is always easy to discern the truth in the chaotic confusion of assertions made by unmuzzled journalists and members of Parliament; but he who bears the responsibility of sovereignty must not be daunted by such difficulties. As MILTON pointed out equal freedom to the utterance of falsehood, "Let truth and falsehood grapple," he said; "so truth be in the field, we

All recent competent observers who tory teaching self-sustaining, since such have had access to the Russian Court instruction is of real value only when the

concur with Mr. GANZ in declaring that at St. Petersburg to-day, as at Versailles in 1788, the fundamental evil is that the sovereign cannot hear the truth. The autocracy, or rather bureaucracy, has surrounded itself with bulwarks which nothing can penetrate. In Russia now, as in the France of the ancien regime, an earthquake is needed to make a breach. Mr. GANZ testifies that in the judgment of all the thinking Russians whom he met such an earthquake is nearer than is generally supposed. The war now going on in the Far East threatens the financial collapse of a political system held together only by foreign loans; just as it was the rotten finance of the Bourbon monarchy that ultimately forced Louis XVI. to summon the States-General to his aid. They came to aid, and they remained to wreck.

## Practical Education of Graduates in Medicine.

The reception recently given to the Board of Trustees and the Medical Staff of the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital in East Thirtyfourth street, to celebrate the twentysecond anniversary of this institution, was an occasion worthy of more than ordinary notice.

The Polyclinic was the pioneer medical school of its kind on the American continent, being the first organization not associated with an existing undergraduate medical college which undertook to give laboratory and clinical courses of study to graduates in medicine. The movement which it inaugurated in this city spread rapidly, resulting in the establishment of similar post-graduate schools in all the principal cities of the United States, exerting in this and in other ways a powerful influence in elevating the standard of medical education in the United States.

When this school was opened in 1882 practically all of our medical colleges, without regard to the preliminary mental equipment of their matriculants. granted diplomas which legalized their students as practitioners rafter three, and in some of these institutions after only two, courses of lectures; while now in less than a quarter of a century these same colleges require a rigid examination before matriculation and a four years course of college study. Even with all this advance since that period there is vet much to be desired. Few men graduating in medicine can hope to be successful in the earlier years of their work without that practical bedside and laboratory knowledge which is essential to making them the competent and safe guardians of the health and life of those whom they attend; for, although the theoretical branches are now taught with great thoroughness by practically all of the American colleges, all possible per-

ender one competent in practice. In order to train a physician two ways are open. The first and better method is an apprenticeship as interne in a hospital immediately under the instruction of a visiting staff who in general are men of ripe experience. After two years of hospital work one can scarcely fail to be made familiar with the various forms of injury and disease and to become a safe practitioner.

fection in the theory of medicine does not

It is unfortunate, however, that, under are the hospital appointments that not ten in every hundred can avail themselves of this privilege.

The second method is a course of practical study under competent specialists in the various departments of medicine and surgery in a school to which is laboratory for bacteriologic and analytic work. In such an institution a large number of patients, among those too poor to pay for treatment or for board, or even for the medicines necessary in treatment, may be cared for, and while being kindly treated furnish the means of demonstrating the most modern methods of diagnosis and treatment of disease and injury. To this method of teaching nine-tenths of the graduates and it was the necessity for this particular work that brought the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital

In the twenty-two years of its exhave matriculated as students. While a death of a man. large proportion of these were from the United States and Canada, Australia, Japan, China, and in fact all civilized countries have sent their quota to this institution of learning. It is evident that the benefits of such practical teaching are not confined to those members of the profession who personally attend the courses of instruction, for each of these, returning to his home, becomes in a measure an instructor to those who are not able to visit the great medical centres.

into being.

While the Polyclinic administers every year gratuitously to a large number of the city's poor, holding the welfare and comfort of these patients who intrust themselves to its care as a first requirement, it claims to be strictly an educational institution, believing that no higher usefulness can be achieved than in the more thoroughly scientific and practical education of the members of the medical profession in all that pertains to the preservation of the public health and the treatment of the sick and injured.

A surprising and none the less gratifying feature of the report which the president submitted was that the medical staff who give their time to teaching and to the treatment of more than ten thousand patients every year do not now, nor have they in the history of the institution ever received any compensation for their services, and as an additional evidence of the enthusiasm and devotion of these men to their work was long ago in his "Areopagitica," there is the further statement from the treasurer absolutely no other means of gaining a that these physicians had out of their hearing for the truth but by conceding own pockets for this year paid off a mortgage of \$37,020 upon the property of the Polyclinic. This, taken in connection with the further fact that it is practically do injuriously to misdoubt her strength." impossible to make clinical and labora-

fees from students are not sufficient to pay for the support and care of the necessarily large clinical material, together with the additional heavy burden of expense in the maintenance of laboratories of bacteriology, pathology and analytic chemistry, without which a satisfactory knowledge of medicine and surgery cannot be obtained, makes it all the more surprising that this institution has been able to maintain itself.

It is to the discredit of this community that although New York city is the metropolis of this continent, it is not the medical centre of the United States. It is surpassed by two, and probably by three other cities of smaller size, for the reason that there either the State or municipal governments or wealthy philanthropists give largely to the support and development of similar institutions. That our city stands even in the third or fourth place in medical education is due not to the public spirit of the wealthier men of this community, but to the enterprise and professional pride of our physicians. It is estimated that ten thousand dollars is given to the education of ministers of the Gospel for every thousand devoted to increasing the practical knowledge of graduates in medicine

and surgery. Notwithstanding the fact that the Polyclinic has year after year shown a deficit due to the care of its clinical material, each year this deficit has been supplied by its medical staff either in cash contributions or by personally solicited

donations. After nearly a quarter of a century of practical experience in all that pertains to post-graduate medical instruction, having outgrown their present facilities to such an extent that they can no longer reap the full fruition of their work, the trustees and staff have undertaken to raise sufficient funds for a new building, constructed and equipped with especial regard to their requirements, by which with the aid of suitable endowment they may perpetuate this institution.

The New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital deserves this recog-

# Mr. Gompers at a Banquet.

It is reported that at a recent meeting of the Central Federated Union Mr. SAMUEL GOMPERS, the president of the American Federation of Labor, was roundly scored because he sat at the banquet of the National Civic Federanon-union cigars and was served by non-union waiters.

The point seems to be well taken. If the great apostle of unionism may thus publicly and flagrantly violate the tenets of his organization and accept service from non-union waiters, wipe his lips with a napkin which does not bear the union label, and which may have been washed in a non-union laundry where the soap used was made in an open shop. unionism loses very much of its vital

The plaint of the Central Federated Union may seem ridiculous, but it has its serious side. It points to the proper function of all unionism, and to the only sound and sure foundation on which unionism can rest. If union bakers make better bread than non-union bakers. existing conditions, of the several thou- everybody will want the union brand. everybody will smoke union cigars. That is, if unionism means superiority it will triumph.

Mr. GOMPERS at the banquet may have fallen from union grace, but his conduct serves to point a moral. He should confess judgment, and reorganize his indus- ing parallelism: attached a hospital, a dispensary and a trial household on a basis of meritorious service and quality of product, in place of the club of the strike and the whip of the beycott. So can he best serve his

## An Attempt to Divide Responsibility in a Hanging.

From Richmond, Va., comes the report of a new idea applied to the administration of justice. JAMES GOODE is to die on the scaffold to-morrow, and this is to be must be referred for a practical training, the method of his hanging, according to the report dated Dec. 19:

" City Sergeant SMITH got the erection of a scaf fold well under way to-day, and then began to look for some one to spring the trap. But his deputies, one and all, declined the task, and each intimated istence nearly eight thousand physicians that he would resign before he would cause the

> Then the City Serreant announced that h would attach a number of strings to the trap and give an end to each man and let all pull together at a given signal. This proposition proved satisfactory to the deputies."

Each deputy was unwilling to pull the cord that should send a man to death, even in a punishment decreed by the law whose agent he was; but each was willing to pull one of six cords, thus practically making six executions instead of one. and to do one-sixth of the killing. The theory is that by increasing the number of men and cords the responsibility of the individual participants will be diminished, in mathematical phrase, in "inverse ratio." The sophistry of these deputies is a novel extension of the principle of the "infinitesimal recess."

In truth, of course, every man who engages in that execution incurs the same responsibility as though he alone sprung the trap. In ethical responsibility there is no arithmetic; division does not apply. It may be comforting to the squad that executes a condemned military offender to know that one cartridge is blank; yet every man that presses a trigger is as much the instrument of justice as any other, whether his cartridge be blank or loaded with the fatal ball.

# The Dead and the Living.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The apelent

Roman maxim was to speak nothing of the dead except good: but I go further and say, think only good of the dead, for they know our thoughts—know what we think about them.

I have sat talking at midday with a friend about a person long since dead, when to my strprise my companion's countenance changed, a slight tremor an through the system, the cyclick dropped and ran through the system, the cyclids droo closed for a minute or two, then opened and there was an expression of our dead friend on the features. Even the voice sounded like it. Even children are mediums. How often we hear

said. "There, how much that child makes me hink of its grandmother, or grandfather, long mee dead." Take the child on your knee and hear it prattle, with ideas beyond its years, and you say:

see are so limited in number that the FROM THE NILE TO SUAKIN. CANADIAN SAVINGS DEPOSITS. PANANA CIVIL SERVICE FIGHT. FLOWER MARKET AT OUT RATES. A Correction of Statistics Published by Our

Before long the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan will have a railroad connecting the Nile with the Red Sea, and giving that vast inland region the short cut to the ocean that is imperatively demanded by its growing commercial interests. About thirty miles of track have been laid eastward from the confuence of the Nile and Atbara rivers; and at the port of Suakin a large force is grappling with the chief difficulties to be found on the route, the cutting of the roadbed across the coast mountains. The enterprise is thus

in full swing at both ends of the line. Over twenty years ago it was thought that this railroad would be pushed through to the Nile as a military necessity. Wha was wanted was a rail route from the Red Sea to Berber, a little north of the Atbara's mouth, so that troops and supplies might quickly be carried within easy reach of Omdurman, where the Mahdist power might be attacked in its greatest centre. A large amount of railroad material was landed at Suakin and in a short time military trains were running a few miles inland to Otao. But the task was too difficult with Mahdist forces swarming on every side. For months there had been hard fighting in the region around Suakin. The Anglo-Egyptian forces never got a firm foothold in this region, through which the caravan route between Suakin and Berber passes, till Kitchener went up the Nile and captured the Mahdist capital. The railroad project was abandoned and never revived until recently.

The railroad will be comparatively short. Following the winding desert caravan route, the distance between the Nile and the sea is only 250 miles. Travellers well supplied with food and water have made the journey in less than a week. The usual caravan time is fifteen days. When the railroad is completed the journey will be made in the daylight of one day. Then the era of the large trading caravan, tolling slowly over the wide sandy tracts and lingering beside the brackish wells, will be closed. Probably Berber will never be the river port through which the products of the upper Sudan will be carried to the sea, for it has never recovered from its three days bombardment by Anglo-Egyptian cannon. But the mouth of the Atbara, where an American steel bridge crosse it, will be the collecting centre for the exports of the Sudan; and the Nile, linked with the Red Sea. will become its commercial affluent.

Even the slow and costly caravan transport has been of the greatest importance to the Egyptian Sudan. Before the Mahdist war from 20,000 to 30,000 camels annually crossed between Berber and Suakin; but only the most valuable products could bear the cost of camel transportation. Various gums were among the chief commodities carried. The Sudan is looking forward to the export of cotton and grain, and such tion and ate non-union bread, smoked articles are too cheap and heavy for transport by animals over considerable distances The railroad has become a necessity if the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan is to add its productive power to the world's resources.

The road is a necessity because the long rail and water route down the Nile to the Mediterranean is very costly. There seems to be no prospect of cheap freights by this route, for the locomotives on the long desert railroad up the Nile are fired by coal that costs \$10 a ton at Wady Halfa, the starting point of the road. The distance from Khartum down the Nile to Alexandria on the Mediterranean is 1,300 miles of railroad and 200 of water. When this new railroad across the southern part of the Nubian desert is completed. Khartum will be separated from the sea by only 470 miles of steam routes. Sea freights will rule for the remainder of the journey to the great northern markets, and the port of the Sudan will be the best harbor on the Red Sea coast.

The day when the road is finished will be worth celebrating in the eastern Sudan, sand graduates that are turned out annually from our medical colleges, so few cigar than those made by non-unionists, sential to its progress. Release from the have followed the Sudan's escape from the bondage of Mahdism.

## Dr. Lyman Abbott and Tom Paine TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Permit me to call attention to a curious and to me very interest

THE REV. LYMAN ABBOTT. The Ten Commandments did not spring spontaneously from dence of divinity with Moses, but were, like all laws, a gradual growth; and that man is a creature of evolution, not a legislator, could prorecation.

I believe in a God who is in and through and of everything—not an absentee God, whom we have to reach through a libie or a priest or some sentee God, whom we have to reach through a libie or a priest or some other outside aid, but a God who is closer to us than hands or feet.

There is only one energy. That energy has always been working. It is an intelligent energy. No scientist can deny it. My God is a great and ever present force, which is manifest in all the activities of man and all the workings of nature.

In fine, do we want to last.

Search not the book called the Scripture called the Creation. The only idea man can affix to the name of God is that of a first cause, the cause of all things.

Do we want to be book called the Scripture called the Creation.

W. H. GARRIBON

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.

A Question from Newburgh. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The Newburgh Daily News, Governor-Chairman Odell's official organ, printed an editorial on March 7, 1901, two days after the inauguration of President Roose-velt as Vice-President, under the heading "Bonaparte and Odell."

A Newburgh gentleman." sald this editorial, "remarked that the reports of the inauguration in our dailies read much like Scott's description of the ancient tournaments and Jousts. They present as fascinating reading as the romances of earlier ". I should like to have seen Teddy the Beady,' he

added. before the great and reverend Senators and our fellow townsman on his splendid steed passing the grapd stand. I know I should have called to mind Heine's description of Napoleon passing through a conquered city." But, according to the editorial, the Newburgh

'I'll match Odell's hand (with its trumps), against Teddy's. And Odell's horse against Teddy's bronco, in the race to the White House." Did Odell fall to play his "trumps," or did his NEW YORK, Dec. 20.

# The South and the Negro.

The South and the Negre.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Mr. Robert M. Gates says that in the South "the farm, the workshop, the railroad, the steamboat and every avenue of physical employment were opened to him (the negro), after his emancipation and remain open to him to this good hour." What, then, is the meaning of the Southern phrase, "white man's job"!

As you say to day, the negro question is an industrial question. That editorial is the best thing on the subject I have seen in a long time. I am sending it South to day.

NEW YORE, Dec. 18. NEW YORK, Dec. 18.

THE SUN get the "best there is" every day, but its comments on the letter of a Southerner in yesterday's paper contained the essence of good judgment on the one hand and of advice on the other. The trouble with the South is that its public men are too negative for its good. Their tendency is to obstruct rather than to assist. This is as I see it obstruct rather than to assist. This is as I see it from a purely business point of view.

Seven eighths of the Republicans of this county COOPERSTOWN, N. Y., Dec. 19.

### BROOKLYN, Dec. 20. The Man for Senator From New York. From the Rochester Union and Advertiser.

Art in Arkansas. Elihu Root would be a large figure in the Sen te. No man in that body would overtop him. I ate. No man in that body would overtop him. If he is willing to serve he should be chosen without

Department of Commerce and Labor. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: The Department of Commerce and Labor at Washington, through its Bureau of Statistics, has Just published a statement regarding savings deposits in different countries which, so far as Canada is concerned, is very misleading. The figures given for Canada are as follows: 

In the first place no date is given, but as a matter of fact the above figures should be dated June 30, 1903. Comparatively few Canadians deposit their money in the post office or Government savings banks, and therefore the figures quoted do not "reveal different degrees of what might be termed the saving capacity" of the people of this country. The Canadian banking system is so thoroughly developed and understood that the people place the great bulk of their sav-ings in the chartered banks, as will be seen from the following figures, which are taken from the Government report of Oct. 31, 1904, and are therefore absolutely correct:

28,542,000 vision)..... Total ...... \$400,786,000

Besides the foregoing, there are other over \$20,000,000, so that the total of what may f Canada amounts to not less than \$420,000, 00, instead of \$60,000,000, as quoted by the Department of Commerce and Labor.

The post office and Government savings panks are the only institutions that publish the number of their depositors, so that it is impossible to ascertain definitely the "average deposit." I can, however, speak for one of the chartered banks (the Sovereign Bank of Canada) of which I am general manager, and this institution has over \$5,000,000 of savings deposits divided among some 24,000 depositors, or about \$200 per head. If this is any criterion, the savings depositors in all the chartered banks of Canada would exceed 1,000,000 in number. I think I am on the safe side when I say that we have at least 1,500,000 savings depositors in Canada, instead of the 213,000 odd for which the Department of Commerce and Labor gives us credit.

Taking only the figures above quoted from the official returns of Oct. 31 (\$400,786,000), we find that the "amount per inhabitant" in Canada is \$72.87 instead of \$10.99, the figures given by the Department of Commerce and

I regret to trouble you about a matter of this kind, but in justice to ourselves as well as to the people of the United States, who are looking for trustworthy information and have by the Departments of the Government at will see your way to give these facts space in your paper. D. M. STEWART, General Manager the Sovereign Bank of

MONTREAL, Dec. 19.

# THE JAPANESE CAMPAIGN.

### its Defects as They Appear to an Experi enced Military Critic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: As the year draws to its close interest in the war n the Far East centres at Port Arthur. Unlike other events prepared for by the Japanese General Staff, the fall of Port Arthur has not come off as prearranged. The many days its capture was to commemorate have come and gone, and still its indomitable garrison holds out; and the probability appears to be that the New Year will see the Russian flag still floating over it. How much the Japanese underestimated the Russian power of resistance is shown by a passage in a letter from Tokio dated Aug. 29, which I received during September, and now seems worth quoting. The writer says: "Decorations to celebrate the fall of Port Arthur have been up for weeks, but the grim oid fortress still stands and is likely to cost many more thousands of lives. Wounded and sick continue to arrive at Japanese ports in batches more bullets found their billets than the offi-cial reports tell. No lists of dead and wounded are published, and many people have not heard from relatives in the field for months."

by their easy success at the start over the sian paval forces into the belief that they would have as little difficulty in dealing with the land defence of Port Arthur, and so they clung to it with a tenacity that is admirable,

the land defence of Port Arthur, and so they clung to it with a tenacity that is admirable, but which has marred the campaign in the north. Harbin was and should have remained the goal for the Japanese play, and everything else should have been subordinated to its attainment.

As it is, the Russians are holding a line from Puk-chong, far south on the coast of Corea, to the upper Yalu and from there to Mukden, with nearly the whole of Manchuria behind it, and the Japanese chance of driving them back behind the Siberian frontier diminishes with every week that passes. Whether they can recover the time and ground lost is very problematical. Competent observers of the situation believe not, and base their judgment on the easy way in which the Japanese were led astray from their original plan by what is proved to have been an Illusion.

It is true that the Russian squadron is now definitely disposed of and that Admiral Togo has a free hand to deal with the oncoming lialtic fiest, but, even if he can neutralize or destroy that force, the ultimate advantage will be with the Power that wins on land.

A French writer in the Paris Main has made the matter one of arithmetic and asks how, if with 180,000 Japanese to 56,000 Russians at the start of the war the first were unable to overcome Kuropatkin, they expect to beat down his resistance with some 400,000 men at his disposal. Certainly in view of what has gone before it does not appear very feasible; and in the chances of war the reverse may happen.

gone before it does not appear to and in the chances of war the reverse may happen.

In that event the mere command of the sea would be of little use to the Japanese, as, unless they could induce the Chinese to stop it, the trade of Manchuria could be easily diverted from Port Arthur and Newchwang by the railway from Sin-min-tin to Shanhaikwan and the other ports on the Chinese coast of the Gulf of Liaotung. It would not take very long to construct a connecting line from some point of the South Manchurian railway north of Mukden or Tieling over the short distance to Sin-min-tin. The continued blockade of the coast line from the Yalu to Newchwang would then soon prove an unprofitable business for the Japanese, while the Russians, with the resources of Manchuria at their disposal, could afford to wait until the protracted disturbance of trade brought the great commercial Powers to put an end to an intolerable situation.

New York. Dec. 20.

## The Paritans and the Jews. From an Address by Israel Zangwill

The men who were determined to lay the founda-lons of New England and place it beyond kingly and priestly despotism were Puritans, and Puri-tans are practically Jews.

The social life in New England was of the Hebraic

pattern; the schoolhouse and the meeting house (which is the exact English for synagogue), were the centres of communal life. The Mosaic civil code influenced legislation. The Bible was the standard book. A day of feasting in the spring and Thanksgiving in the autumn correspond with Jewish sacre days. Easter and Christmas were done away with Sunday became Sabbath, and in Connecticut is even began in Jewish fashion at sundown on the Jews were leading shareholders in the West India

Company that built up New York—the company that got its charter in that very year, 1621. The Hebrale spirit founded the United States of America

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Concerning the measure to enforce the wearing of dead birds or feather millinery as a means of identifying women of evil life, it is implied in your paper of the 18th inst. that no such legislation had been suggested. An ordinance to that effect was first sent to a member of the Aldermanic board of this city. He did ber of the Aldermanic board of this city. He did not introduce it, therefore a duplicate was sent to the board itself. And it was received. Having been received, it is supposed that it will be considered. In order that there shall be no further doubt upon this matter I have just sent a third draft of the measure to the Aldermen. Let me add that I am not and never have been a member of the Audi CHARLES M. SEINNER

From the Weinut Ridge Blade.
Chubby Spades, the artist, is still wielding the brush on the residence of Senator McCall at Portis.

Chief Engineer Wallace Thinks He Should

Hire Whom He Pleases. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 .- The prospect of serious friction over President Roosevelt's order placing employees of the Panama Canal above the grade of common laborer and under the protection of the classified civil service rules is patent to Congressmen who are following the details of the preliminary work that is being done

on the Isthmus. John P. Wallace, the chief engineer of the canal, makes no pretence of knowing how those laws and rules work out in practice, but he believes that if it is attempted to apply them the cost of constructing the canal will be greatly increased. He also believes that the chief engineer should be clothed with authority equal to his

The fact that a disagreement is probable was developed during the visit of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee to the Canal Zone. While there the com-mittee examined Mr. Wallace.

mittee examined Mr. Wallace.

In answer to questions by various members of the committee in relation to the classified service order, Mr. Wallace made this significant statement: "If the order that has been transmitted to the chief engineer is obeyed and enforced, as, of course, it will be, unless it is modified, it will very materially lengthen the time and increase the cost of the work."

When asked why he objected to the order, Mr. Wallace said:

and increase the cost of the work."

When asked why he objected to the order, Mr. Wallace said:

"It practically deprives the chief engineer of the benefit of discipline, or the benefit of conducting his work on business principles, unless materially modified so as to permit its practical application to existing conditions."

At another point Representative Man of Illinois asked Mr. Wallace if in his judgment he could do the work quicker and with greater economy if he had a free hand in the employment of men, and to that he answered: "Certainly." He said that as the character of the work is constantly changing the application of the classified service system will not give that flexibility needed when he finds it necessary to transfer men from one kind of work to another.

A number of members by various questing the specific service system will not give that flexibility needed when he finds it necessary to transfer men from one kind of work to another.

A number of members by various ques-tions made the record show that the chief engineer cannot so much as employ a car-penter unless he is an American citizen, and then only temporarily—for thirty days
—a period for which no man will go to
the Isthmus for employment.

Authentic information as to the delibera-

tions in the Senate Committee on Intercocanic Canals is that if the committee follows its inclinations it will report a bill before the end of this session reducing the membership of the Isthmian Canal Commission from seven to three and the salary of each Commissioner from \$12,500 to about \$7,500, which is to continue only as long as the member remains on the Isthmus.

Another proposition is to place the actual supervision of the work under the direct charge of Chief Engineer Wallace, with a board of consulting engineers, chosen solely on account of the engineering work they have performed, preferably in this country, to act in an advisory capacity. The proposition of requiring two of the commissioners to be engineers has been discussed, but there is a very distinct desire to do nothing that might embarrass Chief Engineer Wallace.

If the commission is reduced in numbers and salaries there is no idea as to which of the commissioners will be dropped. Admiral Walker is looked upon as a fixture, not only because he has been so long identified with the work that a commission without him as president of it would not tions in the Senate Con nic Canals is that if the committee follows

tifled with the work that a commission without him as president of it would not

# COMES INTO HIS ESTATE. Football Guard White Drops Down From

Harvard to Take Possession. Frederick Hall White, the son of Josiah White of 186 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, a sophomore at Harvard, visited Brook-lyn yesterday to enter into possession of a fortune variously estimated at from half a million to \$3,000,000, left to him by his mother. He became of age yesterday, and after a visit to the office of Surrogate Church entered into formal possession of his fortune

Young White and his affairs have occupied columns in the newspapers for many pied columns in the newspapers for many years. Josiah J. White, his father, was appointed guardian of the boy's estate by the terms of the will of the late Mrs. White. During the years of his guardianship Mr. White, in his efforts to conduct the affairs of the estate in accordance with his own ideas, ran into trouble several times. His career in the courts brought him into contact with every Supreme Court Justice sitting in the Second Department.

Young Mr. White is a member of the

Young Mr. White is a member of the Harvard football eleven. He was guard during the games this season, and it is confidently expected that he will be a strong factor in the team next season. After the legal matters had been attended to yesterday he returned to Harvard to re-sume his studies. There will be no changes at the Columbia Heights residence, where Mr. White senior will remain.

# MILK IN SEALED CANS. Alderman Bennet Says the Object Is to

Prevent Watering En Route. Alderman Bennet of Brooklyn introdu resolution, at yesterday's meeting of the board, requiring that all milk coming into the city should be in cans sealed with a metal stamp by the shipper. He said that the purpose of the resolution is to prevent the adulteration of the milk en route. The proposal was referred to the Committee on Health.

# Contemporary French Philosophy

A Frenchman in the London Spectator The Frenchman of the present day is far from being the unbeliever he is reported to be in English newspapers; most Frenchmen have more or less a philosophic—i. e.. an inquisitive—turn of mind, and a man may not be irreligious at all aithough he does not choose to attach himself to any special

Now, Frenchmen consider their philosophy more humane, and, indeed, more lofty, than Christianity as they have seen it at work in France for several centuries, and any one desirous to know what that philosophy is will do well to read the two highly philosophy is will do wen'to read the two highly interesting books. "Esquisse d'une Morale sans Obligation ni Sanction" and "L'Irréligion de l'Avenir," by J. M. Guyau. The influence of those two books on modern French thought and politics is immense, as great as that of Rousseau at the end of the eighteenth century; now no one, unless thoroughly con versant with them, can lay claim to complete under standing of things pertaining to France and th

There is at the present moment in France a higher philosophic culture than is thought of abroad; and indeed, one which accounts for much of the general tendency of the policy of that country either at ome or in relation to foreign countries.

From the London Geographical Journal.

The tabulated results of the census of the various South African colonies, carried out early in the 580.880 1.825,172 2,405,565

The Census of British South Africa.

Transvaal and Swaziland 300.225 1,853.177 2,468.827 Transvaal and Swaziland 300.225 1,853.975 1,854.200 Orange River Colony 143,419 241,628 385,045 Southern Rhodesia 12,623 Natal 97,109 187,582 2284,601 The increase in the total population of Cape Colony is 57.51 per cent. since 1891, while the per-

centages for the white and colored population are 58.96 and 58.68, respectively. In the Orange River Colony the percentages to total population of white and colored, respectively, which in 1890 had been 37.45 and 62.55, amounted in 1904 to 37.25 and 62.75, respectively, or a very slight increase of natives. The relative increase of natives since 1889 is, however, much more considerable. In Southern Rhodesla the total net increase of whites has been 1,891 in the last three years. The colored population of the Transvaai includes a small proportion (1.7 per cent. of total population) of non-native races, while in Natal the number of Indians alone reaches 100.818.

# A Purchase in Maine

day and told the cierk that she wanted to buy an "empty barrel of flour as she wished to make a hen-

Growers Themselves Run It to Cut Out

THE TO STATE OF STREET

Middlemen-Opened Yesterday. A cut rate in cut flowers was begun yesterday with the opening of a flower market in Forty-fourth street near Delmonico's. The market purports to be the outgrowth of dictatorial methods on the part of jobbers and of overcharging in the business. It is said to be managed by a combination of suburban flower growers, who propose to make the haughty obbers and retailers get on the low price

band wagon or go out of business. This is a pretty good sized job to negotiate, as the combination admits, but its members say they are abundantly equipped to handle it. They propose that the flowers shall go direct from the grower to the buyer. There are to be no middlemen to swell prices at any stage of the proposed the p

middlemen to swell prices at any stage of the proceeding.

The new flower market is to be a so rt of floral clearing house, where the public will be able to buy flowers at about the same prices which the growers have been getting from the buyers. By short circuiting the connection between the man who grows flowers for profit and the man who buys flowers for pleasure the combine expects to reduce by just that much the price of transmission. Then, again, bine expects to reduce by just that much the price of transmission. Then, again, there will be no fancy rents to pay and expensively equipped stores to keep up.

"We opened at 7 o'clock this morning," said Conright C. Young, manager of the new flower market, last evening, "and we have been doing excellent business all day. We undersell the regular dealers have to the contract price of the same two two contracts price of the same two contracts and th day. We undersell the regular by 50, 75 and even 100 or more p straight through on all flowers w by 50, 75 and even 100 of more per cent. straight through on all flowers we handle. For instance, there are some American Beauty roses. We are selling them for \$1 a dozen. You'would have to pay from \$7 to \$10 a dozen for them at any well equipped retail store. There are some Enchantress carnations. Our price is \$1.50 a dozen. The regular retailers ask \$3 for them. Then, again, there are some Lawson carnations. You may possibly have heard of Lawson. We get a dollar for them; the retailers ask \$2.

"This trouble in the flower trade dates back some years. It began with the wholesalers dipping into the retail business. They did it on the sly at first, and then they came out into the open and did it defiantly. They sold flowers right and left in retail quantities at wholesale prices. That and other things demoralized the trade until finally the growers got disgusted and organized this company to handle their own crops. It will enable a good many people in New York to have flowers on their tables who never thought they could afford to have them."

who never thought they could afford to

# BOLOS FOR OUR TROOPS.

## Shetguns, Too, Gen. Wood Advises in His Report on Mindanao Department. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 .- Gen. Leonard

Wood, commander of the Department of Mindanao, P. I., in his annual report, just made public by the War Department, among other things recommends that the troops of the department be equipped with machetes or bolos. Gen. Wood remarks that there should be at least twenty of the weapons in each company and that they would be of great use in opening trails as well as in the field. The construction of a railroad in Mindanso

as well as in the field.

The construction of a railroad in Mindanso is also urged, especially on the ground that it would make possible the establishment of a large post at Marahui, 2,400 feet above the sea and one of the most healthful spots in the islands.

The native soldier receives much attention in the report. The native scout as he is clothed now by the Government is laboring under a great disadvantage. Accustomed to clothing weighing but a few ounces, he has received apparel that is much heavier, and he is unable to travel as well as before. The shoes, too, are a great source of trouble with the scouts, and a specially made shoe is recommended. When the scout is on a long march he generally takes his Government shoes off and travels barefooted, carrying the shoes.

The issuance of at least four shotguns to each company is strongly urged, and a number of facts are cited to show why this should be done. Gen. Wood says that a repeating shotgun loaded with buckshot is most valuable in the Philippines, where soldiers are constantly being rushed.

JOKE STIRS THE CABINET.

What Does Hitchcock Mean by Too Honest to Be Elected? WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 .- Attorney-Genera Moody came from the White House this morning with a story about serious dissensions in the Cabinet.

Secretary Hitchcock was with him as it was the regular Cabinet meeting day. "What do you think of Hitchcock," said Mr. Moody, "who has been a member of the Cabinet for seven years and Ambassathe Cabinet for seven years and Ambassador I don't know how many years, but has
never been elected to office. He tells the
President of the United States, in the
presence of Mr. Shaw, Mr. Wilson, myself
and other members of the Cabinet who
have been elected by the people, and with
the apparent approval of Mr. Hay, Mr.
Morton and others who haven't been, that
a certain man whom he mentions was too
honest to be elected to office."

"It has caused a good deal of dissension
in the Cabinet," concluded Mr. Moody.

# RICE IN PARSON'S PLACE. To Be Made Acting Chief Engineer to the R. T. Beard for the Present.

The Rapid Transit Commission's commit tee on contracts decided yesterday to recommend the appointment of Deputy Chief En gineer Rice as acting Chief Engineer of the Rapid Transit Commission, to fill the vacancy left by William Barclay Parsons, who will retire at the end of the year. It is understood that this is merely preliminary to appointing Mr. Rice chief engineer in a few months.

few months.

From 1887 to 1891 Mr. Rice was one of the principal engineers of the Aqueduct Commission. In 1891 he became chief engineer mission. In 1891 he became chief engineer of the Boston Transit Commission. In 1895 Mr. Parsons sought his assistance in working out the plans for building the rapid transit system in this city, and in 1900 he was appointed deputy chief engineer to the commission.

# HUNGARY HOLDS HER.

## Will Let Her Sail From an Austrian Port Only, Not a German. Mrs. Marie Burger of 123 East 101st street

asked Commissioner of Immigration Williams yesterday to help her get her twelveyear-old daughter Ella back to New York. year-old daughter Ella back to New York.

Mrs. Burger said that Ella, who was born in this country, went to Hungary five months ago on a visit in charge of a woman relative. Mrs. Burger recently sent Ella a prepaid ticket from a German port. She says that she has received a letter from Ella and the relative accompanying her saying that the Hungarian authorities had refused to let them leave the country unless they did so by Fiume or Trieste, and had sent them back to the native place of Ella's mother. Commissioner Williams referred Mrs. Burger to the State Departreferred Mrs. Burger to the State Depart

# ROOSEVELT COMING HERE. Will Attend the Republican Club's Lincoln

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20-President Roose velt told William D. Murphy this morning that he would accept the invitation recently extended to him to attend the Lin-coln Birthday dinner of the Republican Club of New York in that city on Feb. 13.

### Site for New Brooklyn Academy About Selected.

The committee on sites of the new Brooklyn Academy of Music has about decided it is said, upon the south side of Lafayette avenue between Fort Greene place and From the Aroestook Republican.

A lady entered a Fort Fairfield grocery store one day and told the clerk that she wanted to buy an empty barrel of four as she wished to make a heatopp for her dog.

St. Felix street, Brooklyn. It has a frontage of 176 feet on Lafayette avenue and a depth of 215 feet. The price is said to be the only thing in the way of closing the deal.